### IN THE CLAIMS:

- 1. to 5. (Canceled)
- 6. (Currently amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure comprising:

providing a honeycomb structure having a circumferential wall, partition walls disposed inside the circumferential wall, and cell passages defined by the partition walls; and

coating the circumferential wall of the honeycomb structure with a high molecular weight organic reinforcing material in a narrow band at the edge portions of the honeycomb structure only,

wherein the organic reinforcing material dissipates at a high temperature, thereby protecting the edge portions of the honeycomb structure from damage before the structure is subjected to a baking treatment.

7. (Currently amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure, comprising:

providing a honeycomb structure having a circumferential wall, partition walls located inside the circumferential wall, and cell passages defined by the partition walls;

impregnating and coating a circumferential portion of the honeycomb structure with a high molecular weight organic reinforcing material in a narrow band at the edge portions of the honeycomb structure only; and

curing the high molecular weight organic material,

wherein the organic reinforcing material dissipates at a high temperature, thereby protecting the edge portions of the honeycomb structure from damage before the structure is subjected to a baking treatment.

- 8. (Previously Presented) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 6, wherein a high molecular weight organic material is filled in cell passages at a vicinity of a circumferential portion including a foremost outer circumferential portion of the honeycomb structure to coat an inner surface of said cell passages; or
- a high molecular weight organic material is filled into the cell passages, and then the material is cured.

- 9. (Canceled)
- 10. (Canceled)
- 11. (Previously Presented) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 6, wherein said high molecular weight organic reinforcing material is a photo-curing photo-reactive material.
- 12. (Previously Presented) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 7, wherein said high molecular weight organic reinforcing material is a photo-curing photo-reactive material.
- 13. (Previously Presented) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 8, wherein said high molecular weight organic reinforcing material is a photo-curing photo-reactive material.
  - 14. (Canceled)
  - 15. (Canceled)

- 16. (Currently Amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 6, wherein at least the circumferential portion of the honeycomb structure is reinforced with a the high molecular weight organic material after an injection molding, or after a drying before a firing but after injection-molding.
- 17. (Currently Amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 7, wherein at least the circumferential portion of the honeycomb structure is reinforced with a <u>the</u> high molecular weight organic material after <u>an</u> injection molding, or after <u>a</u> drying before <u>a</u> firing but after injection-molding.
- 18. (Currently Amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 8, wherein at least the circumferential portion of the honeycomb structure is reinforced with a the high molecular weight organic material after an injection molding, or after a drying before a firing but after injection-molding.

- 19. (Canceled)
- 20. (Canceled)
- 21. (Currently Amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 11, wherein at least the circumferential portion of the extremity surface of the honeycomb structure is reinforced with a the high molecular weight organic material after an injection molding, or after a drying before a firing but after injection-molding.
- 22. (Currently Amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 6, wherein the reinforcing material is selected from the group consisting of thermal setting thermosetting resins, elastic resins, ultra-violet curing resins, rubber materials, and pressure—sensitive pressure—sensitive adhesives.

23. (New) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 7, wherein the reinforcing material is selected from the group consisting of thermosetting resins, elastic resins, ultra-violet curing resins, rubber materials, and pressure-sensitive adhesives.